



23<sup>rd</sup> April 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back! The children have all come back 'raring' to go! We are looking forward to a super summer term and the final part of the school year. Although at times it has been challenging, I am extremely proud of all the achievements the pupils have had this year. They have shown an enormous amount of resilience, dedication and hard work; they should be proud of themselves, I know I am.

We are looking forward to the summer term with our exciting new whole school topic, 'Adventurous Explorers.'

Please continue to make every effort to follow government guidelines in order to keep us all safe.

## Reminder of Covid procedures

As you will be aware, the rules have slightly changed, making it now possible for people to meet up in gardens and public outdoor spaces. We still **MUST** follow social distancing rules and not meet up with any more than 6 people, or two households. It is imperative that we all continue to follow the government rules. Please be reminded that children should not be entering each other's homes as this is still not allowed. We understand that this is a frustrating time for everyone, but if we are to all be able to return to some normality, we must follow the rules. It is our responsibility as a school to remind children of the wider rules to ensure that we are encouraging the community to help keep each other safe.

### Please re-familiarise yourself with the guidelines below.

We ask that you continue to follow government guidelines. It is vital that we work as a community to help keep everyone as safe as possible. Therefore, we would like to remind you how to help us keep our school community safe.

- 1) If anyone in your household has symptoms your child **MUST NOT** attend school – until a negative test is confirmed
- 2) If anyone in your household is waiting for a test your child **MUST NOT** attend school – until a negative test is confirmed
- 3) If you have been contacted by track and trace and told to isolate your family your child **MUST NOT** attend school
- 4) If you are isolating, due to track and trace or a member of the household having a positive test, you must isolate. If during this isolation period, your child or another member of the family develop symptoms, you must isolate for a further 10 days from the day after the start of symptoms. Your child **MUST NOT** attend school.
- 5) If your child has been in contact with anyone who has symptoms or has tested positive for Covid-19 then your child **MUST NOT** attend school

If you are in any doubt, please contact the school office who will be happy to help and **DO NOT** send your child, ask the school first. You can always bring your child later in the day if we advise that this is possible.

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The time scales have now changed. The isolation period is now 10 days for everyone. (This means the person with symptoms or a confirmed positive test and anyone else living in your house). If you are concerned, please keep your child at home and ring the school office. They will advise you on what to do and when/if your child can come to school.

## Reminder about School times

Thank you for following our new school times, I know this caused some confusion last week. A reminder that we are going to return to Year 1 and 2 leaving school at 3.15pm daily. The children in Reception will continue to leave at 3.05pm. Children in Nursery will continue to leave at 3.25pm so that there is not a blockage. Please continue to leave the school site as soon as you can.

## Staff changes

I am thrilled to announce that Mrs Gladwell is expecting a baby this summer. This does however mean some changes for our FS2 children. Due to Government Guidelines, Mrs Gladwell will have to work alone within a room for the remainder of her pregnancy to ensure we are keeping her and baby as safe as possible.

Therefore, from Monday 10<sup>th</sup> May Mrs Raw and Miss Gibson will be teaching FS2, along with Mrs Calvert. Over the coming weeks, Mrs Gladwell will be having time to handover all information, regarding your children's needs, to Mrs Raw and Miss Gibson. Mrs Raw already knows the children and Miss Gibson has been spending time in Foundation Stage to get to know the children. Mrs Gladwell will return to school next year, later in the summer term.

Mrs Raw and Miss Gibson will take over Seesaw so please continue to use your app for communication.

I am sure you will all join me in congratulating Mrs Gladwell and wishing her all the best.

## The Big Ask

Yesterday the Department for Education announced an exciting opportunity for all children to have their say on how Covid has affected them and help to shape the future of education moving forward. Please see below the information received.

## National survey of children, The Big Ask, launches today

The new Children's Commissioner for England, Dame Rachel de Souza, has today launched [The Big Ask](#) – the largest ever consultation with children aged 4 to 17 in England. It aims to find out children's concerns and aspirations about the future, so that we can put children at the heart of our country's recovery from the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak.

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Children, parents, care leavers and those working with children are invited [to complete the survey](#) to share their views about the future for children and young people today, and what they think is holding young people back.

The results from this survey will help the Children's Commissioner identify the barriers preventing children from reaching their potential, put forward solutions and set ambitious goals for the country to achieve.

This is where you can find the survey – please take the time to help your child complete the survey and if you have time, complete your own survey, as parental views are important as part of this national initiative.

<https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigask/>

## Attendance

As you know, attendance at school is extremely important and as a school, we are monitored for our attendance. Since all the children returned to school on 8<sup>th</sup> March, our overall school attendance has dropped for the first time this year. Our overall attendance is now 96%, compared with the 97+% that we have seen over the rest of the year.

Therefore, starting from next week each class will have their own attendance tracker chart to encourage whole classes to be at school daily. At the end of this half term, the class with the most improvement in attendance will have a treat afternoon on the last day. In addition, any class that has an overall attendance of 97% or above will also have a treat afternoon on the last day, Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> May. *(Although Nursery is non-compulsory education, we have the same rules for attendance and lateness for the pupils, as we want to prepare them for school and get them into a good routine)*

We aim for at least 97% or above for attendance.

Year group	Attendance
Morning Nursery	94%
Afternoon Nursery	91%
Reception	97%
Year 1	97%
Year 2	98%
Year 3	96%
Year 4	96%
Year 5	97%
Year 6	95%

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Although late arrival at school does not necessarily mean your child missing their mark for the day, it is very disrupting and distressing for children to arrive late at school. As an adult, we have all experienced a moment when we have been 'late to the party' and know how uncomfortable it feels to walk into a room late. This is how your child feels when they arrive late to school. The rest of the class are working, know what they are doing and then your child has to come in late and try to get on without the same level of input/support that the other children have had. We appreciate that on some occasions lateness is unavoidable, but please make every effort to be here on time.

Here are the times that school starts for each year group – remember that **all** children (including Nursery and Reception) have 'morning work' when they arrive at school.

Phase	Time
Nursery and Reception	8.30am
Year 1 and 2	8.30am
Year 3 and 4	8.40am
Year 5 and 6	8.40am

## Bikes/Scooter

It is wonderful to see so many children arriving to school on their bike or scooter but we ask that all children dismount their bikes/scooters before entering the school site. It is very busy in a morning and at the end of the day and it is not safe for children to be riding their bikes/scooters. I also ask that children put their bikes and scooters away properly. Recently, Miss Parkinson has had to remind many of our Year 5 and 6 children about how to store their bike correctly, instead of piling them all on top of each other.

The office have also asked that children do not bring any Segway's or electric skateboards/scooters for them to store. Our office is not very spacious and staff are not always in the office for the full day, meaning that valuable equipment is not safe in the office. Children should only be bring equipment that can be left in the bike shelter. Thank you.

Thank you for your continued support

Stay safe.

Miss Howard

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